



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of: Arlene H. Sharpe *et al.*

Serial No.: 08/702,525

Filed: February 7, 1997 Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) filed herewith

For: NUCLEIC ACID MOLECULES ENCODING NOVEL FORMS OF T CELL COSTIMULATORY MOLECULES THAT BIND TO CD28 OR CTLA4 AND USES THEREFOR

Attorney Docket No.: BWI-120CPUSCPA

Group Art Unit: 1644

Examiner: P. Gambel

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend this application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-17, 30-31, 33-47, 60-61, 63-65, 69-71, and 75-77.

Please enter the following new claims into the application:

78. (NEW) An isolated nucleic acid molecule encoding a B7-1 or B7-2 protein which binds to CD28 or CTLA4 comprising a contiguous nucleotide sequence which is an alternative splice form of a transcript of a B7-1 or B7-2 T cell costimulatory molecule gene, the nucleotide sequence being a naturally occurring variant of the nucleotide sequence shown in SEQ ID NO: 18 or SEQ ID NO:22 and being represented by a formula A-B-C-D-E, wherein: